GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1174
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2003
SMUGGLING OF COMMODITIES
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the increase in the smuggling from North Eastern States to Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the commodities presently being smuggled out to Bangladesh;

(c) the details of different routes through which smuggling is going on; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop smuggling from North Eastern States to Bangladesh?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND)

(a)to(d): The Indo-Bangladesh Border is porous in nature and prone to smuggling.However, major smuggling takes place from areas which are thickly populated and unfenced espcially in the State of West Bengal. Cattle, sugar, phensedyl and machine parts are some of the commodities which are smuggled to Bangladesh. The following steps are being taken to check such activities:-

i) Round the clock surveillance of the border by patrolling.
ii) Construction of fencing and flood lighting.
iii) Conduct of special operations.
iv) Upgradation of intelligence network.
v) Use of night vision devices.
vi) Augmentation of strength of patrolling/naka duties.